



COALINGA FIRE DEPARTMENT

GREG DUPUIS, FIRE CHIEF

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CITY OF COALINGA FIRE DEPARTMENT

FIRE PREVENTION STANDARD

STANDARD TITLE:	402.015 HAZARD IDENTIFICATION SIGNS (NFPA 704 PLACARDS)	
STANDARD NUMBER: 402.015	EFFECTIVE DATE: 1 October 2022	REVISION DATE: 1 October 2022

PURPOSE

This policy has been established to provide direction for the installation and location(s) of hazard identification signs (NFPA 704 placards) for sites, buildings and occupancies within the City of Coalinga and contract service areas, as required in the California Fire Code (CFC).

APPLICATION

This policy applies to sites, buildings and occupancies that meet the requirement set forth in this policy.

OPERATIONAL POLICY

The initial determination for the required installation of NFPA 704 placards shall be made based upon number 1 and 2 below, respectively. Each material shall be classified in each category as noted in the applicable chapter of NFPA 704.

1. Any material, in any category (i.e., health, flammability, or reactivity) having a classification ranking of 3 or higher shall have NFPA 704 placards installed as noted in this policy.

Exceptions:

- a. Sites, buildings, or occupancies containing only flammable liquids (any class) shall not be required to install NFPA 704 placards unless the quantity of the flammable liquids is fifty-six (56) gallons or greater of cumulative total volume.
 - b. Sites, buildings, or occupancies containing only flammable liquids (any class) which are stored in underground storage tanks, shall not be required to install NFPA 704 placards.
2. Any material which is water reactive, is an oxidizing agent, or is subject to special engineering controls (i.e., the material is required to be handled with specialized personal protective equipment or within a controlled environment, for instance a



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fume hood) shall have NFPA 704 placards installed as noted in this policy.

Note: If the material does not meet either of the above criteria, determination for the required installation of NFPA 704 placards shall be made based upon number three below.

3. A material in any category (i.e., health, flammability, or reactivity) having a classification ranking of 1 or 2 shall have NFPA 704 placards installed as noted in this policy when the material exceeds the threshold amounts noted below:
 - Liquids: 1,001 gallons or more of cumulative total volume.
 - Gases: In any form (liquefied, compressed, etc.) in excess of 1,001 liquid gallons or 130 cubic ft. of cumulative total volume.
 - Solids: 100 lbs. by weight of cumulative total weight

When NFPA 704 placard installation is required based on the criteria noted above, the NFPA 704 placards shall have the highest numerical rating placed in each category, and the NFPA 704 placards shall be installed at each of the following locations:

1. The address side of the building, directly adjacent to the main public entrance door. The NFPA 704 placard on the building shall be a minimum of five (5) inch by five (5) inch.
2. Where a site contains multiple buildings, in addition to the number one installation requirements above, each building containing material requiring to be identified by this policy shall have NFPA 704 placards installed directly adjacent to the main entrance door to the building. The sign on the building shall be a minimum of five (5) inch by five (5) inch.



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3. In addition to the installation requirements for number 1 and 2 above, each building, site or occupancy containing materials required to be identified by this policy shall have NFPA 704 placards installed at each principal means of access to the site, for instance on an access gate. Signs on the access gates shall be a minimum of twelve (12) inch by twelve (12) inch.

NFPA 704 placard installation requirements are not correlated with Department required hazardous materials permit requirements.

In every case, the Fire Marshal, or designee has the authority to increase the number of NFPA 704 placards installed, require NFPA 704 placard installations at additional locations, or increase the sign dimensions.

Additional NFPA 704 placard requirements may be required, and the determination shall be made at the sole discretion of the Fire Marshal, or designee.

OPERATIONAL GUIDELINE

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PROCESS

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INFORMATION

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DEFINITIONS

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CROSS REFERENCES

California Fire Code

NFPA 704